

Letter Bk. I. considerable number of Men to make up the designed Complements of the said four Regiments it is His Majesty's pleasure that you should be taking the previous Steps towards contributing as far as you can to have about 3000 Men in readiness to be enlisted, & it is his Majesty's Intention that a Genl. Officer of Rank & Capacity to be appointed to command in Chief all the Kings Forces in North America a Deputy Quarter Master General & a Commissary of the Musters shall sett out as soon as conveniently may be in Order to prepare every thing for the Arrival of the Forces above mentioned from Europe for the raising of the others in America" the Letter then proceeds in general terms to excite us to raise such Supplies as the present Danger requires particularly with regard to the following points that we should carefully provide a sufficient Quantity of fresh victuals at the Expence of this Gov^t to be ready for the use of these Troops at their Arrival & to provide Carriages for carrying the Baggage of such Forces as shall arrive or be raised within this Govern^t & with Regard to such other Articles as are of a more general Concern S^r Tho^s Robinson's Letter acquaints us that it is the King's pleasure that the same should be supplied by a Common Fund to be established for the Benefit of all the Colonies collectively in N. America; for which purpose you will use

p. 102 your utmost Endeavours says he to induce the Assembly of your Province to raise forthwith as large a Sum as can be afforded as their Contribution to this Common Fund to be employed provissionally for the general Service of N America (particularly for paying the Charge of Levying the Troops to make up the Complements of the Regiments above mentioned) untill such time as a Plan of a general union of his Majestys Northern Colonies for their common Defence can be perfected, this is the Substance of the Secretary of State his Letter; on my Receipt of which I desired the Advice of your Ldp's Council whether to issue Proclamation for the Assembly to meet before the Day appointed to consider of granting requisite Supplies & paying Obedience to the Royal pleasure or whether it would be more proper for me to proceed as I had intended to the Camp where my presence seems quite necessary to have the American Troops a little disciplined & to see provisions laid in & proper preparations made for the Reception of those Regiments from England as well as those Companies that are raising in Virginia & this Province. At present there are at the Camp the 3 Independant Companies & the Maryland Company compleated to 110. the Virginians who are at present dispersed & quartered in several parts of that province have Orders to begin their March thither in Divisions to Morrow, their Number Gov. Dinwiddie informs me when they come